allowable (pending a further search). Applicants have amended the claims above and believe all pending claims are allowable (see discussion below) and notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Status of Claims

Claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 21, and 23 have been amended. Claims 26-33 have been added. Therefore, claims 1-33 are pending. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 12, 14-17, 19-23, and 25 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims cited on attached Chart 1 of co-pending application numbers 09/100,117, 09/100,118, 09/100,119, 09/100,120, 09/100,121, 09/100,128, 09/100,130, and 09/100,131. Claims 1-3, 8-9, 15-17, 19, and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Leone, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,745,360 (Leone). Claims 4-7, 11-14, 18, 20, and 24-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Leone as applied to claims 1-3 above, and further in view of Schutzman, *et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,627,764 (Schutzman).

Applicants note that the Office Action summary indicates that claims 1-25 are rejected. Claim 10, however, has not been indicated as containing allowable subject matter although claim 10 only stands rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. Applicants respectfully request clarification as to the status of claim 10.

Rejection under the Judicially Created Doctrine of Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

The Office Action asserts that claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 12, 14, 15-17, 19-23, and 25 are unpatentable because, although not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the related co-pending applications cited in Chart 1 disclose the invention substantially as claimed. Applicants respectfully traverse. Each related co-pending application claims

patentably distinct features. For example, application serial number 09/100,131 claims "a non-markup language to markup language translator," application serial number 09/100,128 claims "user objects comprising information about a user," and application serial number 09/100,129 claims a "workflow module." In addition to these patentably distinct features, the related applications claim additional patentably distinct features. In an attempt to advance prosecution, however, Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 12, 14, 15-17, 19-23, and 25 to further clarify the patentably distinct features in each related co-pending application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Leone. Applicants respectfully traverse. The Office Action correctly states that, "Leone does not specifically disclose a workflow module that facilitates one or more tasks of the server that comprise the one or more non-markup language objects according to a predefined process." The Office Action, however, alleges that "[i]t would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated a workflow module that facilitates tasks of the server that comprise a non-markup language objects into the system of Leone in order to automatically perform functions according to a predefined process." The Office Action appears to be using improper hindsight to arrive at Applicant's invention. The Office Action alleges that "Leone does disclose a dynamic interchange translation agent which is extrapolated from CGI scripts for performing predetermined actions once a non-HTML document has been selected." The Office Action refers Applicant's attention

to column 3, line 12-column 3, line 45. This passage, however, does not refer to tasks as claimed by the Applicants.

In an attempt to advance prosecution, claims 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 21, and 23 have been amended to further clarify Applicant's invention. Independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 21 have been amended to recite a workflow process that includes "one or more object management tasks, of the server, associated with the one or more non-markup language objects according to a predefined process, wherein the workflow module performs the one or more object management tasks without requiring user input." As amended, independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 21 recite that the tasks are performed without requiring user input. The passage referred to in the Office Action appears to relate to retrieving a non-HTML document and converting the document to HTML. These operations, however, appear to require user input and are not object management tasks as claimed by Applicants. For example, a document does not appear to be converted unless a user requests the document. Therefore, Leone does not disclose at least facilitating "one or more object management tasks, of the server, associated with the one or more non-markup language objects according to a predefined process, wherein the workflow module performs the one or more object management tasks without requiring user input" as claimed. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 8, 15, and 21 are allowable for at least the foregoing reasons and notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Claims 2-7, 9-14, 16-20, and 22-25 depend from at least one of independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 21. Therefore, these claims are also allowable for at least the foregoing reasons. New claims 26-33 also depend from at least one of independent claims 1, 8, 15, and 21 and are also believed to be allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such disposition is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference or interview would advance prosecution of this application in any manner, the undersigned stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.
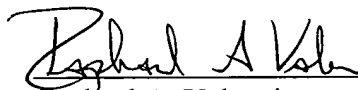
It is believed that the fee calculation in connection with filing this Response is correct. In the event that it is determined that the fee calculation is incorrect, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the undersigned's deposit account number 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS

Dated: April 24, 2000   By: _____

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